

**Bedford Council on Aging
Minutes of Board Meeting
September 17, 2013**

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:25 PM.

2. Attendance:

Board: John Gerdes, Polly Salter, Luigi DiNapoli, Bobbie Ennis, Rosemary Dyer,
Lew Putney, Lenore Dichard
Staff: Lori Wittner.
Visitors: A. Colonaro

3. The minutes of the June meeting were accepted as submitted.

4. A new agenda was proposed and a motion was made to discuss it, motion was seconded. The board voted 4-3 not to discuss the proposed agenda since It was not made available to the other members prior to the meeting.

5. Financial Report:

Continue to be in good shape. Larger expenditures include Wheels of Life and COA 50th Anniversary party

6. Supporting Organization Reports:

FBCOA:

John Gerdes expressed his disappointment in the turnout to the fundraiser that was organized at the Chateau Restaurant. The FBCOA moved the date of their meeting to the 1st Tuesday of the month in order to avoid any conflict with the COA Board meetings. All members agreed that 12:15 is still an acceptable time for the COA board to meet.

Minuteman Senior Services:

Polly reported that MMSS received a \$100,000 grant from the Cummings Foundation - half this year and half the next year, the pilot program at Lahey to follow up patients after discharge has ended. It was well received and they were talking with Lahey about their funding it. There was a speaker from "Right at Home", a home care company in Bedford which supplies most of MSS needs. The "One Care" program is due to start soon, for disabled people between ages 21 and 64.

7. Old business:

J. Gerdes made a motion to revisit the discussion that was tabled from last meeting regarding the rotation of board positions. R. Dyer seconded the motion. The board voted to discuss. The question was raised of whether all town boards rotate positions annually. Term limits on positions was discussed and a suggestion was made to vote on a policy to make the changes in a year. A motion was made to request that the COA director find out if there is a town policy regarding rotation of offices. All agreed and L. DiNapoli made a motion that if there is a policy the board will start making changes at the next election (March 2014). A unanimous vote in favor of starting at the next election was made.

A discussion was held regarding a new clerk as the previous resigned and his replacement is in rehab. No other member volunteered to clerk and the COA Director agreed to take the minutes until the clerk returns or someone else volunteers.

8. New business.

J. Gerdes made a motion to add a watercooler to the COA, R. Dyer seconded the motion. COA Director explained that the Town Manager is opposed to town departments having a watercooler as we are paying for MWRA water and it sends the message that town water is not good enough to drink. The board was reminded that their responsibility is to support the COA Director.

The question about cooking was raised once again and the same explanation was given. A motion was made to end the discussion. Motion was accepted.

R. Dyer made a suggestion that there should be an interest survey put out to caregivers to find out how much interest there is in a caregiver support group or other programs directed at caregivers.

8. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for 12:15 PM, November 12, 2013.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.